



AF/NFW

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 5165
Hitoshi ISONO et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2005_0921A
Serial No. 10/537,589 : Group Art Unit 2854
Filed October 17, 2005 : Examiner Jill E. Culler
WASTE LIQUID REGENERATION : Mail Stop: AF
APPARATUS AND WASTE LIQUID
REGENERATION METHOD FOR A
PRINTER

**RESPONSE UNDER 37.CFR1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2800**

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of December 28, 2007 Applicants in the above-referenced U.S. patent application hereby request reconsideration of the rejections contained therein.

Initially, the Examiner is thanked for the courtesy of the telephone interview conducted on March 27, 2008. While no agreement was reached, the Examiner's discussion regarding the rejection in the application of the references is helpful.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 32 and 34 is also gratefully acknowledged. However, it is respectfully submitted that claims 31 and 33 are patentable over the references cited by the Examiner as they stand.

As discussed during the interview, the present invention as reflected by independent claim 31 has a waste liquid supplying apparatus for supplying waste liquid, containing ink pigment, water and cleaning fluid used in a printer, into the recited first chamber. In particular, the waste liquid supplying apparatus has an intermittent supplying mode in which mode the waste liquid is alternately supplied and stopped from being supplied to the first chamber.